

RECEIVED

JUL 18 2003

Technology Center 2600

REMARKS

In view of the above-amendments and the following remarks, reconsideration and further examination are requested.

The specification and abstract have been amended and replaced with the attached substitute specification, which indicates the changes with bracketing and underlining as required for reissue applications. No new matter has been added.

In item 2 of the Office Action, claims 19-24 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 2 and 5 of U.S. Patent No. 6,256,357 in view of Farias et al.

A terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.321(c) is filed herewith. Accordingly, it is submitted that claims 19-24 are now in condition for allowance.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney by telephone to resolve any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,

Mitsuaki OSHIMA et al.

By: 

Jeffrey R. Filipek

Registration No. 41,471

Attorney for Patentees

JRF/fs

Washington, D.C. 20006-1021

Telephone (202) 721-8200

Facsimile (202) 721-8250

July 16, 2003